

lead line has been included for clarity. These corrections are noted in red ink on the drawings and a letter to the draftsman is being filed contemporaneously with this amendment.

In the Specification

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, lines 26 to 28 as follows:

BJ
Figures 5 through 8A, in combination, show an alternative piercing die assembly of the present invention;

Please amend the paragraph on page 10, lines 11 to 16 as follows:

RJ
Figures 3C through 3E show an alternative embodiment of a cutting blade of a piercing element 30'. More particularly, these Figures show a cylindrical blade 34' having angled surfaces 36' that form cutting or piercing edge 38'. The angled surface 36' is preferably arcuate.